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Dr Ilke Turkmendag
Ilke joined the Law School as a Lecturer in Law Innovation & Society. Her interest area centres on the socio-legal and ethical issues associated with biomedicine. She was awarded her PhD in Genetics and Society (University of Nottingham) in 2009, for work concerning the social, legal, and ethical implications of the removal of donor anonymity from gamete donors in the UK, and the conflicting rights in donor conception. Ilke also holds a Master's degree in Science and Technology Studies (University of Oslo, 2003). Dr Turkmendag was awarded a prestigious Mildred Blaxter Postdoctoral Fellowship (2012-2013) funded by the Foundation of Sociology of Health and Illness. Before she joined Newcastle Law School, Ilke held posts at Policy, Ethics and Life Sciences Research Centre (PEALS) at Newcastle University, and the University of Sheffield, where she played a central role in launching a new research centre, Institute of Study of Human (iHuman). Ilke is currently working with a small team of lawyers, conducting a pilot project to examine the ethical, legal and social implications of new health technologies, involving the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority. She is also a Co-Investigator in a new ESRC funded project on epigenetics: EpiStressNet: A biosocial systems approach to understanding the epigenetic embedding of social stress responses.

Derek Whayman
Derek Whayman joined the school as a lecturer in 2016, having completed his PhD in that year. His interests fall within the law of obligations, and particularly the flurry of developments in English equity the courts have seen in recent years. His doctoral thesis charted the idea and the decline of ‘axiomatic theories’ of equity, most notably the ‘disability theory’, in these cases. These theories had very restrictive consequences for the remedies for breach of trust, breach of fiduciary duty, knowing receipt and tracing. The rejection of them, in whole or in part, are therefore of great consequence to litigants who need to know where they stand. His research interests now include the consequences of this loosening process and how the law may change as a result, and also the original settling of this part of the law by Lord Eldon.

Dr Hélène Tyrrell
Hélène joined Newcastle Law School in June 2016. Her research interests lie in the field of public law and human rights, with a focus on judicial reasoning. She also has a keen interest in empirical research methods. Hélène completed her LLB and Master of Jurisprudence at the University of Durham. She was awarded her PhD by Queen Mary in 2014, for her thesis entitled ‘The Use of Foreign Jurisprudence in Human Rights Cases before the UK Supreme Court’. Prior to her appointment, Hélène worked in the Essex Human Rights Centre as a Senior Research Officer and as a Parliamentary Researcher in the House of Commons. She has taught at the University of Durham, Queen Mary University of London and at the Catholic University of Lille, in Paris. Her teaching areas cover constitutional law, administrative law, human rights, and tort law. At Newcastle, Hélène teaches Public Law and Legal Institutions & Methods. She is responsible for the Partners Summer School Programme and the (pro-bono) Street Law and McKenzie Friend projects.
Elliot Winter
Elliot joined Newcastle as a Teaching Fellow in September 2016. Elliot previously qualified as a solicitor in private practice during which time he conducted litigation on behalf of the UK and Scottish Governments and various local authorities. He joins us from Glasgow University where he taught on a range of courses from Contract to Public International Law in addition to undertaking his own postgraduate work in the latter. Elliot is the module leader for the postgraduate module on the Law of the World Trade Organisation and will also be teaching Introduction to Business Law and Criminal Law. In addition to his teaching, Elliot is a Ph.D student at Newcastle and is conducting research into International Humanitarian Law; specifically the use of modern military technologies.

Sarah Morley
Sarah has recently joined Newcastle Law School as a Teaching Fellow, having previously taught at Durham University. Her principal teaching and research interests lie in the fields of company and commercial law, and more specifically mergers and acquisitions. She holds a qualifying (Solicitors Exempting) law degree from Northumbria University and an LLM from Durham University. Sarah is concurrently completing a PhD based on an international study of litigation practices in takeovers and mergers at Durham University, and is the recipient of several competitive funding awards, including a Durham Law School Scholarship.

Josh Jowitt
Josh joined Newcastle Law School as a Teaching Fellow in September 2016, having previously led seminars in Public Law as a guest member of staff for two years. In the current academic year, he is teaching Public Law, European Union Law, Terrorism and Anti-terrorism Law and US Constitutional Law. His research interests lie broadly in legal theory and jurisprudence and he is close to completing his PhD at the University of Durham, in which he explores whether or not there exists a necessary link between law and morality.

David Lawrence
David joined the Law School on 1st November as an REA postdoctoral fellow. He is presently finishing off his PhD at the University of Manchester’s Institute for Science Ethics and Innovation, and has a background in medical science and biotechnological ethics and law. He has research interests around novel consciousnesses and their legal status, as well as bioethics and the medical law more generally. Most recently he has worked on a range of issues including Mitochondrial Replacement Therapy, CRISPR, and germline editing; as well as topics from paleoanthropological bioethics to the philosophy of the doctor’s white coat to how society views the superhero. His research in Newcastle will focus on the policy and ethical implications of the advent of AI and biotechnological enhancement.

Law School Teaching Excellence Awards Nominations

Congratulations to the Law School staff nominated for the Teaching Excellence Awards (TEAs) 2016! The TEAs are the students’ chance to nominate staff who have been outstanding and have helped them improve their student experience here. Staff members who were nominated: Dr Aisling McMahon - Taught Supervisor of the Year & Innovative Teaching Methods; Dr Elena Katselli - Contribution to Pastoral Support & Innovative Teaching Methods; Miss Jasmine Winter - Support Staff of the Year; Ms Jennifer Stephens - Innovative Teaching Methods; Ms Jenny Johnstone - Innovative Teaching Methods & Contribution to Outstanding Feedback; Dr Jonathan Galloway - Research Supervisor of the Year; Professor Kathryn Hollingsworth - Taught Supervisor of the Year; Mr Richard Hogg - Support Staff of the Year (3 nominations); Professor Sophia Tang - Taught Supervisor of the Year; Professor TT Arvind - Innovative Teaching Methods (2 nominations) & Taught Supervisor.
The Law, Innovation, and Society Research Group held its first half day event on 11th May. Four of our Law School colleagues presented papers on different research areas. Each of these prompted lively discussion from those in attendance. The papers covered diverse topics, but they all touched on issues of pressing social need – refugees, national security, reproductive technologies, and consumer credit and spiralling debt. They also illustrated how the problems being analysed sit at the intersection with politics and cannot, therefore, be analysed in isolation. In different ways the papers all spoke to issues regarding the political economy of various legal mechanisms and changes (or lack of change).

Colin Murray presented ‘Innovation in Times of Crisis: The UK’s Response to the Brogan Judgment’. He explored how different legal and political actors can both innovate and improvise in order to make the law subservient to political whims and expediency.

Maria-Teresa Gil-Bazo spoke about ‘War Refugees, the Mediterranean Route and the Reform of the System for the Distribution of Asylum-Seekers among EU Member States’. She examined the dire plight of asylum-seekers and argued that a lack of innovation in terms of law and policy within the EU, along with a repeated inability of member states to coordinate pluralistic actors at a supranational level, has contributed to the current situation.

Ilke Turkmendag gave a paper on ‘It’s Not Just a Battery: Right-to-know in Mitochondrial Replacement Techniques’. She discussed how the law responds to scientific innovation and how a variety of actors can themselves innovate to alter what are seemingly embedded principles within regulatory regimes.

A Karim Aldohni presented ‘High Cost Short Term Credit (HCSTC) and the Quest for Better Consumer Protection’. He outlined his ongoing research which aims to examine how innovative governance mechanisms, in particular drawing on insights from the behavioural sciences, might better protect consumers.

Discussions regarding innovation and the law commonly take place within, rather than across, different sub-discipline areas. Thus traditional scholarship on innovation and change is fragmented. A key aim of this conference was to bring together those working in diverse areas in order to draw out more general issues and challenges. Speakers from a range of legal sub-disciplines, including jurisprudence, tort, environmental, and health law examined both the levers of change and barriers to change in different areas of the law. Bringing together scholars from these different areas led to lively debate and prompted discussions about what different areas of law could learn from each other, as well as the problems and pitfalls of interdisciplinary legal scholarship. The full schedule of speakers can be found here: [http://www.ncl.ac.uk/nuls/research/groups/lisgroup/](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/nuls/research/groups/lisgroup/).

Behavioural economics, and behavioural science more generally, has become an increasingly salient aspect of modern policy debates. Despite the current enthusiasm amongst governments and policy-makers for behavioural approaches, there are potential problems with the use of the behavioural sciences to formulate public policy, many of which remain underexplored. This workshop, held on 23rd September 2016, brought together papers from a range of different disciplinary, regulatory, and practical perspectives to examine the potential benefits and pitfalls of behavioural science as applied to policy.

The workshop focused on three core themes: Evidence, Ethics, and Expertise. Speakers presented on the debates surrounding the existence of empirical evidence for people’s irrationality, including evidence of biases and an unwarranted reliance on heuristics, which is often used as the justification for ‘nudge’ techniques. Presenters also questioned the normative foundation for these techniques, in law and in ethics. Finally, presenters discussed the policy-making process in terms of what is counted as evidence and who is granted the authority of expertise to make behavioural policy decisions, as well as the complexity of doing truly interdisciplinary work in academia and in policy. The full schedule of speakers can be found here: [http://www.ncl.ac.uk/nuls/research/groups/lisgroup/](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/nuls/research/groups/lisgroup/).
Vera Baird QC, the Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner, delivered the Law School Annual Lecture on Thursday 10 November. The lecture outlined the progress made since inception of the roles and the successes within the region, including Safe Havens for vulnerable revellers in the city centre and training for door staff at bars, restaurants and clubs. Mechanisms for addressing police complaints have also been introduced with a reduction in formal complaints to the PCC. She spoke candidly about the challenges faced in developing a new role, especially when dealing with sensitive issues such as domestic violence.

The Law School is delighted to be hosting the 2017 Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA) Conference. The SLSA provides a forum for socio-legal scholars to meet and disseminate their work. The SLSA annual conference is hosted each year by a different UK university and will coming to Newcastle, 5 - 7th April 2017. The call for papers is open until 16th January 2017. A number of bursaries are available to support attendance at the 2017 annual conference at Newcastle University. More information about the bursaries, the call for papers and conference registration can be found on the SLSA 2017 website: http://www.slsa2017.com/

Dr Aisling McMahon, Dr Ilke Turkmendag, and Professor Muireann Quigley all gave talks at the 2016 International Association of Bioethics World Congress in Edinburgh. Dr Turkmendag took part in a symposium she co-organised with colleagues from Policy, Ethics and Life Sciences Research Centre: UK Mitochondrial Research and Legislation: Cutting Edge or Out on a Limb? Dr McMahon presented 'The Myriad Gene Patent Cases and Controversy: Balancing Public and Private interests in the Patentability of Health-related Inventions'. Prof Quigley (along with Kathryn MacKay from the University of Birmingham) presented 'Exacerbating Inequalities? Health Policy & the Behavioural Sciences'. Prof Quigley’s research is part of a research project currently being funded by Newcastle’s Institute for Social Renewal.

Newcastle Law School hosted a live-screening of the United Kingdom Environmental Law Association Annual Garner Lecture on Wednesday 16 November. The lecture was given by Pamela Castle OBE, former Chair of UKELA and Founder of Castle Debates on the topic of “Environmental Science, Law and Opportunities”.

On Monday 5 December there will be a live-screening of the United Kingdom Environmental Law Association seminar on the Implications of UK Trade Negotiations for Environmental Law after Brexit. The speakers are: Professor Joanne Scott, UCL - WTO law and environmental issues; Christophe Bondy, Volterra Fietta - Trade deals and the environment; Stephen Tromans QC - the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) The event will be chaired by Tom Burke, UKELA Patron.

The Law School is offering free relaxation classes for all law students in November. The classes are being run by Maria Wilkinson, a trained therapist. They have been designed to activate the body's natural relaxation response to combat stress. They will involve guided relaxation, breathing techniques and guided visualisation with a background of relaxing music. The classes will have up to 20 students per class and take place on Wednesday afternoons for an hour at the following dates and times:

Wednesday 9 November: 2pm-3pm, 3pm-4pm and 4pm-5pm;
Wednesday 16 November: 2pm-3pm, 3pm-4pm and 4pm-5pm;
Wednesday 23 November: 2pm-3pm, 3pm-4pm and 4pm-5pm;
Wednesday 30 November: 2pm-3pm, 3pm-4pm and 4pm-5pm.
Dr Jane Ball
Dr Ball has been exploring the history of property in England, France and Europe in the aftermath of the Napoleonic Wars in three papers this summer: ‘English Coal and Property in the Shadow of the French Revolution. Why social and public housing achieved lift-off in 1850’ at the 2016 Association for Law, Property and Society meeting at Queen’s University, Belfast in May 2016; ‘The European “use”. Welcome to the common law of Europe’ at the European Network for Housing Research Conference at Queen’s University, Belfast in July 2016; ’Build and they will come? How new courts dealt with individual property in the early 19th century.’ At the Society of Legal Scholars at St Katherine’s College, Oxford.

Ciara Brennan
Ciara Brennan was awarded £1430.63 from the University’s ESRC Impact Acceleration Account to run a workshop relating to waste enforcement in Northern Ireland.

Professor Richard Collier
In May 2016 Richard Collier took up membership of the new Legal Professions Wellbeing Taskforce. He has presented several papers on his research around wellbeing in law, most recently at Cardiff and the RCSL Legal Professions Working Group, building on themes in his recent article ‘Wellbeing in the Legal Profession: Reflections on Recent Developments’ International Journal of the Legal Profession (2016) 23 (1) 41-60. He has been a Visiting Fellow at the College of Law, Australian National University, during which time he delivered a paper on work-life balance in law firms (with Prof. Margaret Thornton) to the Australian Academy of Law (AAL) at the ACT Supreme Court, Canberra. Richard has recently been conferred a Fellowship of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Dr Kevin Crosby
Dr Crosby’s research on ‘Keeping women off the jury in 1920s England’, funded by the British Academy/ Leverhulme Trust and Newcastle University, was presented at the annual conference of the Society of Legal Scholars (SLS) in Oxford in September 2016. The paper explored the strategies used for keeping women off assize juries in the decade following the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1919, which had lifted the earlier prohibition on female jurors. Kevin’s paper was one of three shortlisted for the best paper prize. The prize is awarded for the best work across the whole conference, in any field of law; around 300 papers were presented in total. Many congratulations to Kevin on this honour, in what was a very strong field.

Professor Kathryn Hollingsworth
Kathryn Hollingsworth was a visiting professor at Melbourne University, Australia and Texas Tech University in the USA in 2016. She has been working on her monograph on children’s rights in criminal justice; the edited collection for the AHRC funded Children’s Rights Judgment Project; and commencing work (with colleague Dr Nikki Godden Rasul, and Neil Cobb of Manchester University) on the legal obligations of UK universities vis a vis sexual assault on campus.

Dr Elena Katselli
In September 2016, Dr Katselli acted as Chair of a panel on Pushing the Boundaries of Refugee and Immigration Law, Association of Human Rights Institutes Conference: 50 Years of the Two UN Human Rights Covenants: Legacies and Prospects (Utrecht) and was a Selected Member of Programme Conference Committee, Association of Human Rights Institutes Conference: 50 Years of the Two UN Human Rights Covenants: Legacies and Prospects, (Utrecht). Earlier this year, Elena presented (jointly with Dr V Tzevelekos) Migrants at Sea: A Duty to Protect? At the Newcastle Forum for Human Rights Seminar Series, Newcastle Law School (27 April 2016). Elena has also been invited to act as reviewer for the International Journal of Transitional Justice (OUP); Macquarie Law Journal; International Journal for Human Rights and as evaluator for the Belgian Science Policy Office.

David Lawrence
David Lawrence joined the Law School’s Law, Innovation, and Society Research Group on 1st November. David is undertaking a three year Research Fellowship with the School, which he gained as part of Newcastle’s highly competitive Research Excellence Academy awards. David will be researching how we ought to treat the new kinds of beings and consciousnesses that we are likely to encounter in the near future; for instance, due to human enhancement, artificial intelligence research, and synthetic biotechnologies. All of these have potentially serious societal and legal consequences. His project aims to provide new insights into the ethical and policy dimensions of the emergence of novel sapient beings, and to help to guide our regulatory response to the technologies behind them.

Dr Deming Liu
Dr Liu presented his paper “public sculpture and moral right” at the Intellectual Property Scholars Conference, Stanford University School of Law, 10-12 August 2016. Dr Liu’s essay, “Exercising the Moral Right of Integrity in Public Sculpture: A Balance between the Artist, Public Scholar and Society” was published in 2017 in the International Journal of the Legal professions Working Group, building on themes in his recent article ‘Wellbeing in the Legal Profession: Reflections on Recent Developments’ International Journal of the Legal Profession (2016) 23 (1) 41-60. He has been a Visiting Fellow at the College of Law, Australian National University, during which time he delivered a paper on work-life balance in law firms (with Prof. Margaret Thornton) to the Australian Academy of Law (AAL) at the ACT Supreme Court, Canberra. Richard has recently been conferred a Fellowship of the Academy of Social Sciences.

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Dr Aisling McMahon
Dr McMahon presented a paper on ‘A Public International Law Approach to Safeguard Nationality for Surrogate Born Children’ (with Dr Bríd Ní Ghráinne, University of Sheffield) at the Sheffield Institute of Biotechnology, Law and Ethics in February 2016. More recently, in June 2016, she presented a paper on ‘Embryonic Stem Cells, Morality and Overlapping Supranational frameworks in the European Patent System: Too many cooks?’ at the International Association for Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property Law (ATRIP) in Krakow. Dr McMahon and Dr Turkmendag have received faculty funding for a project that explores the regulatory boundaries in human genome editing. On the 25th of October they hosted a workshop on gene editing.

Professor Richard Mullender
Professor Mullender has given a series of papers on ‘Law, Politics and Possibility: An Inquiry Concerning Gravid Arrest’ (July 2016, at Newcastle Law School’s Law and Innovation Conference, on ‘Pierre Bourdieu on the State’ (September 2016, at the SLS Annual Conference, Oxford (Jurisprudence Section)) and on ‘Humanitarian Intervention and Welfare Consequentialism’ (January 2016, at Northumbria University’s ‘Iraq: Legal and Political Legacies’ Conference).

Colin Murray
Colin Murray, alongside Dr Sylvia de Mars and colleagues at Durham and Birmingham Universities, has been working on the ESRC-funded project ‘Constitutional Conundrums: Northern Ireland, the European Union and Human Rights’.

Professor Muireann Quigley
One of the main foci of Prof Quigley’s research is on the use of the behavioural sciences in law. She has recently given a number of presentations on this. In April, along with Prof Anne-Maree Farrell from La Trobe University, she gave a paper at the European Consortium for Political Research Joint Sessions in Pisa: ‘Policy & Regulatory Dynamics of Behaviour Change in Health: Bottlenecks, Politics, & Practicalities’. She also gave this paper at the Stirling University Behavioural Science Centre Seminar Series. Prof Quigley recently gave two papers examining emerging issues relating to implanted devices and complex prosthetics. The first was at the Law and Society Association conference in New Orleans in May: ‘The Everyday Cyborg & Law’s Double Bind’. The second was at the joint Society for Social Studies of Science and European Association for the Study of Science and Technology Conference in Barcelona in September: ‘Everyday Cyborgs & the Law: Transgressing Boundaries & Challenging Dichotomies?’ Next year she will undertake a yearlong project on this which will be funded by a Wellcome trust Seed Award.

Professor Sophia Tang
On 7 October 2016, Sophia delivered a presentation on ‘Future Private International Law in the UK: Different Models’ at a conference on Cross-Border Litigation in the UK: A Post-referendum Perspective. The conference was held in London and organised by the UK Private International Law Network (of which Sophia is a founder and director) and the Institute for Advanced Legal Studies. The conference examined 6 potential models to shape future private international law post-Brexit: Transposition, Norwegian/Swiss Model, Unilateral, Bilateral, Multilateral and International Models. Later in October, Sophia presented on ‘Consumers’ Access to Justice in E-Commerce: A Comparative Study’ in the E-Commerce Law Conference, organised by China-EU Law School, CUPL on 20 Oct 2016 in Beijing. The Conference attracted over 100 participants. Speakers include the member of National People’s Congress, the director of the law department of the Chinese Ministry of Industry and Technology, UNCITRAL legal experts, legal representatives from major Chinese e-commerce companies, and academics from China and EU.

Dr Ilke Turkmendag
During February-March 2016 Dr Turkmendag conducted interviews with chairs/interim chairs of Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority for a small project (titled ‘Inside ELSI’) she is involved with a group of colleagues across three universities. The interviews are completed now, and the project team is working on producing two papers.

Dr Turkmendag presented a number of papers over the last number of months. In March, she presented on Maternal Responsibility in Epigenetics at the University of Sheffield at a meeting of Epistress Net. Dr Turkmendag is a Co-Investigator in this new ESRC funded project on epigenetics: EpistressNet: A Biosocial Systems Approach to Understanding the Epigenetic Embedding of Social Stress Responses. In May, at Ghent University, Belgium she gave a public lecture (Maternal Responsibility in the Postgenomic Era, and a masterclass (Co-production of Genetic Relatedness in the Human Reproduction Technologies: Donor Conception and Mitochondrial Replacement Techniques’). She was awarded honorarium as well as a travel grant by the Ghent University. In June, she presented her work on the
identification of mitochondria donors at the IAB Annual Conference. In September, Dr Turkmendag co-organised a track with Prof Paul Martin (University of Sheffield), titled 'What is the meaning of being a Human in the 20th Century' at the annual conference of EASST/4S in Barcelona. The track was comprised of 15 papers including Turkmendag’s paper titled 'Epigenetic human: Reproductive Responsibility and Risk in the Postgenomic Era'. Dr Turkmendag presented a paper in Paris, on the 4th of November, at a workshop organised by Rare Disease Europe (EURORDIS), which is a non-governmental patient-driven alliance of patient organisations representing 724 rare disease patient organisations in 64 countries covering over 4000 diseases. Ilke’s talk focused on international regulative framework for gene editing. The organiser of the event later wrote that Ilke’s paper was ‘very interesting and accessible. A definite highlight of the day!’.

Dr Turkmendag and Dr McMahon have received faculty funding for a project that explores the regulatory boundaries in human genome editing. On the 25th of October they hosted a workshop on gene editing.

Derek Whayman
On Monday 4th April 2016 Derek co-presented a paper with Dr David Gibbs (of Hertfordshire University) called ‘Property rights and Equitable Principles: Understanding Fiduciary Loyalty in an Organisational Context’. The paper was presented in the Corporate Governance section of the Property Rights symposium the World Interdisciplinary Network for Institutional Research. (http://winir.org/?page=events&side=symposium_2016)

In September 2016 Derek gave a paper and presentation called ‘A New Trichotomy of Equity’ to the Property and Trusts section of the 2016 Society of Legal Scholars conference in Oxford. The paper, doctrinal and theoretical research, concerned the identification of three peculiar sets of principles and their reasoning styles found in equity and their relationship with each other. The paper was selected by the section convenor, Dr Simon Cooper, for forwarding to the committee who decides the SLS Best Paper Prize 2016.

Colin Murray has been made a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Professor Kathryn Hollingsworth has been appointed to the board of Trustees for Just for Kids Law, a charity that provides support, advice and representation for young people in difficulty and is now on the Strategic Policy and Litigation group of the Children’s Rights Alliance for England (CRAE). She has also been appointed chair of NU Women - the women's staff network.
S Morley, ‘The subject matter, form and process of convergence and the ever-increasing role of the foreign investor’ (2016) 37 Company Lawyer 71
C Murray, L Pitsillidou and C Caine, ‘Student-led law reviews: What every UK law school needs?’ (2016) Law Teacher 1
R Smith (with Sue Farran), ‘When is a Child not a Child and Other Questions - a Commonwealth-wide overview’ (2016) 105 The Round Table: The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs 363
I Ward (with Clare McGlynn), ‘Women, Law and John Stuart Mill’ (2016) 25 Women’s History Review 227
D Whayman, ‘Remodelling Knowing Receipt as a Gains-Based Wrong’ (2016) 7 Journal of Business Law 565

Chapters
A K Aldohni, ‘Introduction: providing a different narrative: the 2008 financial crisis and the UK financial market’
E Katselli, ‘R2P as a Transforming and Transformative Concept in the Context of Responsibility as Liability’ in R Barnes and V Tzevelekos (eds), Beyond Responsibility to Protect (Intersentia 2016).
D Mac Sithigh, ‘Contempt of court and new media’ in The legal challenges of social media (Edward Elgar 2016) (in press)
D Mac Sithigh, ‘The game’s the thing: properties, priorities and perceptions in the video games industries’ in Research handbook on intellectual property in media and entertainment (Edward Elgar 2016)
R Smith, ‘Criminological Issues and the UN: Key Issues and Trends’ in Routledge International Handbook of Criminology and Human Rights (Routledge 2016)

Notes and reviews
A Karim Aldohni, ‘Review: Risk and Regulation of Islamic Banking’ (2016) 31 Journal of International Banking Law & Regulation 110
Newcastle Law School has chosen three recipients for its International LLB Scholarship from its 2016 intake. The competitive scholarship, awarded on Academic Merit, is worth £9000 split over three years of study. This year it has been awarded to Razan Bucheeri from Bahrain, Poonavijay Singh from India (both pictured) and Kadi Chetty, from Mauritius. The awards were announced by new Head of School, Prof. Rhona Smith, at a welcome event for International Students held in the Student Common Room on Wednesday 5th October 2016.

Kadi has followed his older brothers to study at Newcastle, and is attracted to the breadth of the curriculum on offer at the Law School. “It is fascinating how law is not just about the rules we have to follow, but how it is correlated to philosophy and history too.”

Razan was also attracted to the Law School by its “high academic quality” but also by the “distinctive student experience” on offer in Newcastle – something to which all students, past and present, will be able to attest! Having been in the city for three weeks, she is happy to report that both the University and the city are “nothing less than enchanting.”

All three recipients join a vibrant and cosmopolitan scholarly community of over seven hundred students and academics from all over the world, a community which has been working at the highest standards of legal excellence in the city since 1923. This diversity is perhaps best described by Poonavijay. When asked about his decision to move to the North East, he wrote that: “Choosing law at Newcastle has been one of the best decisions of my life; the influx of cultural diversity has made me a global citizen and the encouraging study environment has helped me improve my self-confidence.”

The Law School is proud to welcome these outstanding students to the university alongside the rest of our global intake. We congratulate all three recipients on their award, and wish them and all our new intake all the best for their time in the North East.

*New* Newcastle Law School Achievement through Adversity Grants

Newcastle Law School Achievement through Adversity Grants seek to support current Stage One students who have demonstrated a high-level of commitment to their studies (both past and current) and who continue to make significant achievements in the face of past, current or on-going adversity. Up to 10 awards of £500 will be made at the beginning of Semester 2. These grants are designed to support you through your studies by helping with general living costs and expenses. The ‘Achievement through Adversity Grant’ is a one-off non-repayable grant and can be spent on anything from rent and books to household bills and travel expenses.

The Law School congratulates Nicole Axon and Celia Johnson-Morgan (pictured, alongside former Head of School, Professor Chris Rodgers) on receiving awards for outstanding academic achievement in stage two. Nicole achieved the highest grade in equity, whilst Celia achieved the highest grade in criminal law. These were awarded by the Newcastle-Upon-Tyne Law Society and are extremely prestigious awards. The Annual celebratory ball was held in Newcastle Civic Centre on 11th November 2016 and was enjoyed by all who attended. Mark Harrison, the current president, expressed that it was a focus of the society to celebrate the achievements of those students that are currently in the middle of their legal studies. Acknowledging that such students are the future of the legal profession. The Law School is very proud of these students and their excellent achievements.
Newcastle Law School has launched an exciting new International Legal Studies (ILS) degree stream, providing opportunities for students to undertake exchange years at leading international Law Faculties outside Europe. At present the ILS offers opportunities to study in Singapore and Hong Kong. Participating exchange students enter the standard Law LLB 3 year degree programme and apply for the new ILS stream towards the end of Stage 1. If selected, participating students undertake an exchange year at a partner Law School between stages 2 and 3, and after the four years of study they are eligible for a distinctive exit degree – the Law (International Legal Studies) LLB Honours degree. Our existing ILS partners are the National University of Singapore (NUS) Faculty of Law, and the University of Hong Kong (HKU) Faculty of Law, ranked 16th and 18th respectively according to the QS World University Rankings by Law 2016, and discussions are underway with other potential partners in different countries. This new degree stream and the agreements with prestigious international partners, in addition to the successful European Legal Studies stream, highlights the growing international reputation and standing of Newcastle Law School. Queries should be directed at the ILS Director, Dr Jonathan Galloway (jonathan.galloway@ncl.ac.uk).

Four students have secured bursaries and work experience placements at leading law firm Ward Hadaway. The four, who are all in their second year of studies on the LLB Law degree here at Newcastle University, submitted a written application and were interviewed by Partners at Ward Hadaway before being selected for the scheme, which the firm operates with us to support and encourage talented young law students.

Kerry McFarlane said: "I applied for the scheme because I like the fact that Ward Hadaway is a truly Northern law firm with a real commitment to the region and I'm really pleased to have been chosen for the bursary scheme." Matthew Timm added: "Ward Hadaway had been involved in a number of previous things on the course so I already knew something about the firm and as soon as this opportunity came up, I went for it." Celia Johnson-Morgan said: "I'm looking forward to the work experience here – it will be good to get a broad range of experience across the firm." Alexander Kidd said: "I'm really pleased to have been awarded the bursary – it will help in terms of being able to cut down on the hours I work outside of university around exam time."

Jamie Martin, managing partner at Ward Hadaway, said: "As a firm, we believe strongly in investing in identifying and nurturing the next generation of lawyers and this scheme is an ideal way to do just that. By working with Newcastle University, we hope to encourage talented young legal students to continue their good work and to give them a taste of what could await them once they have finished their degrees. We hope that Kerry, Alexander, Celia and Matthew enjoy their time at Ward Hadaway and gain a valuable insight into how the law works in practice."

The bursaries are on offer again for the coming year. Applicants will be interviewed shortly and it has, once again, been a very strong field.
For the first time, Newcastle Law School entered a team in the Foreign Direct Investment International Arbitration Moot. The competition is one of the most prestigious in the field of international arbitration and attracts teams from universities throughout the world.

Two 2015-2016 LLM students, Ehsanul Oarith and Imam Arouna (pictured outside the Faculty of Law, University of Buenos Aires) competed in the global rounds held between 3-6 November 2016 at the University of Buenos Aires. Poonam Tiwari, another 2015-2016 LLM student, helped prepare the written memorials. As one of the smallest teams in the competition, the team mooted very well and was unlucky to miss out on a place in the finals. In a remarkable achievement, Ehsanul placed 9th in the list of the top 50 advocates.

LLM Cultural Exchange with Helwan University in Egypt

LLM students have been working with Masters students at Helwan University in Egypt. The collaboration came about after Dr Bronwen Jones met with Professor Yasser Gadallah whilst at a series of workshops in Cairo. The final piece of the puzzle fell into place when Dr Shaimaa Lazem moved to Newcastle to begin working with Culture Lab.

Shaimaa set up a closed Facebook group which would bring together one group of student from each institution to discuss intellectual property law. Bronwen said: ‘In part I wanted to do something to show that you could have international collaboration without winning a big grant or spending money. ‘But I also wanted to facilitate a cultural exchange. I wanted my students to think more critically about the ways in which intellectual property law can advantage or disadvantage people from certain countries or cultures.’

The debate involved a preparation period in which the coordinators and students posted relevant articles that they discussed on Facebook. Each group was then given one week to prepare material, and write an argument to post on Facebook. Bronwen said: ‘Some students who were initially worried about participating joined in later and it became more and more popular over the semester. Some actually joined when the debate was over because the materials posted were useful, and the page is still up and running now.’

Scholarship Opportunities for LLM Study in Newcastle Law School

A number of scholarships are available for Home/EU and International students to undertake LLM study in Newcastle Law School. Each year the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Newcastle University also awards a number of scholarships to high achieving recent Newcastle University graduates from the UK or EU who are commencing a postgraduate taught degree in Newcastle University. If you require any further information please contact gemma.hayton@ncl.ac.uk.

LLM Field Trip International Criminal Court—2016

For a second consecutive year students on the International Criminal Law module (LLM in International Law) took a field trip to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Court, both based in the Hague. The field trip is optional for students on the International Criminal Law module and provides the opportunity to visit the courts and to attend some of the trials.

This experience enables participating students to have a better understanding of the trials before the courts and some of the legal complexities of the cases. Following last year’s attendance of Mladic’ trial at the ICTY, this year our students had the opportunity to attend the examination of witnesses and evidence in the trials of Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé, and Bemba.
The Northern Bridge Doctoral Training Partnership offers high-quality supervision and exceptional resources for the training and development of outstanding Arts and Humanities postgraduate researchers. The AHRC awards cover tuition fees and provide a maintenance grant at the RCUK national rate for UK applicants. The AHRC award covers tuition fees only for EU students; however, Newcastle University will make maintenance awards to EU students that are equivalent to those of AHRC. We welcome applications from outstanding candidates who can demonstrate evidence of academic excellence at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, as well as evidence of sufficient research skills to undertake the project. If you wish to be considered for Northern Bridge AHRC funding for a PhD in Law, you must have made an online application for a PhD place at Newcastle University by 5pm on 11th January 2017 indicating your interest in Northern Bridge funding by inserting the ‘AHR17’ code in your application. For more information and details of how to apply see: http://www.northernbridge.ac.uk/studentships/apply/.

The NINE Doctoral Training Studentship Competition is funded by the ESRC and brings in seven institutions (Newcastle, Durham, Queens Belfast, Durham, Northumbria, Sunderland and Teeside Universities). The ESRC are funding 28 studentships for the next six years, commencing in October 2017, over 16 training pathways. As a joint venture between universities the NINE DTC Scheme brings together each institution’s strengths in research and teaching to create an integrated centre of excellence for doctoral training in the social sciences. A masters is not a prerequisite and all studentships. If you wish to be considered for a NINE DTP Award in Law, the application deadline for candidates to submit to Schools is 5pm Monday 16 January 2017. Applicants must apply through the University’s online postgraduate application system quoting the code ‘ESR17’. For more information and full details of how to apply see the websites: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/sources/allstudents/esr17.html; www.ninedtp.ac.uk.

Potential candidates for both schemes are strongly urged to read the Applicant Guidance provided and to contact the School in advance to ascertain whether their proposal is in an area in which we can offer supervision. Candidates are also encouraged to submit their application in advance of the deadline wherever possible. For general queries and more information about any of the subject areas in Newcastle Law School and the schemes, please contact gemma.hayton@ncl.ac.uk.

The PGR and LLM Symposium event between Northumbria and Newcastle Law School took place on 14th June 2016 and brought together PhD candidates and LLM students who presented their wide range of work and discussed the opportunities of early-career academics. The main organisers of the event were Ms Jenny Johnstone and Dr. Lida Pitsillidou from Newcastle, as well as Ms Rachel Dunn from Northumbria; Ms Thalea Turowski, a current Newcastle LLM student, also assisted in the preparation.

In two one-hour-long sessions the students were able to present aspects of their research to the group, highlighting specific issues and explaining theories and concepts surrounding their work. The wide range of research areas was very impressive, including topics such as children’s rights, legal pluralism and indigenous peoples’ rights, privacy and organised crime. Each presentation was followed by a question and answer session and all participants showed great engagement, welcoming the suggestions and comments made by students and academics alike.

The opportunity to present work at the symposium was extremely useful, especially for the LLM students, who were able to benefit from the feedback and practical suggestions of PhD candidates and academics. Being able to communicate their own work to a group of full-time researchers was useful, not only for the development and strengthening of communication and presentation skills, but also to benefit from the experiences shared by the PhD candidates who gave insightful suggestions for the successful completion of the LLM theses.

In the final session of the day, Dr. Lida Pitsillidou gave an interesting presentation on the different ways into the academia and the different pathways of careers the academic sector. Current PhD candidates shared their experiences of completing a research degree and answered questions by interested, prospective PhD students. Finally, the day came to a close with the opportunity for more personal discussions over a glass of wine.
As the Christmas break approaches, it’s been a busy few months for careers at the Eldon Society. Reflecting the Society’s diverse membership, we have held numerous events, both legal and non-legal, which catered for all tastes – from networking events with Magic Circle law firms, to skills workshops with leading public sector organisations. This year, the Eldon Society is working with more law firms than ever before, ranging from regional practices to international legal heavyweights. Meanwhile, I am delighted to say that this year the Society is working alongside a number of law firm Campus Ambassadors, as well as Newcastle University’s Bar Society and Law4NonLaw Society, to ensure that students have the best chance of gaining work experience, vacation schemes and training contracts. Organisations which have invited the Eldon Society’s members to attend their events so far this year include: Herbert Smith Freehills; Jones Day; BPP; University of Law; Addleshaw Goddard; Frontline; Slaughter and May; Allen and Overy; Hogan Lovells.

Our annual Law fair took place on the 14th November 2016 (pictured). Many law firms from all over the country attended to get to know our students and answers any question about a career in law, training contract applications and the legal profession. Additionally, in November the Society collaborated with the Law School to organise ‘Life and Law: An Insight into Legal Practice’; this panel event included a selection of barristers and solicitors, who discussed their experiences across a range of practice areas. A follow-up panel event, focussed on non-legal careers, will take place in February 2017.

The Eldon Society has a variety of exciting events planned for the rest of the year, all aimed at ensuring that students get the most out of their time at Newcastle University, and beyond. For example, Irwin Mitchell will be hosting a quiz night in the near future, whilst in 2017 Addleshaw Goddard will return to Newcastle to discuss their paralegal opportunities. The Eldon Society will also be represented at POLITICO’s EU Studies Fair in February 2017, held at the European Parliament in Brussels - the hope is that a number of the Society’s members will also attend the Fair, the largest educational networking event in the world. Two Eldon Society members attended the EU Studies Fair, earlier this year: Charlotte Hill (pictured second from left) and Thomas Seddon (pictured third from left).

The Eldon Society has got off to a great start regarding socials and planning events to come this year! Our first social was our ‘family social’ and this was an opportunity for all stages to come together as a family and enjoy one great social. Whether you were a baby (stage ones), a parent (stage twos) or a grandparent (stage threes), it is fair to say that everyone made the effort and had a great night as our society family!

Coming up: the Metroline social where we will be exploring the surrounding areas of the beautiful Newcastle by getting… you guessed it… THE METRO! Further ahead, there will be a trip to Barcelona and the Eldon Society Law Ball Committee is also well underway with plans for our annual Law Ball, which promises to be a great night.
It’s been a good start to the year all round for the Eldon society sports teams. After championing the league last year, Barca-law-na, our society football team were promoted into the top division. Despite stiffer competition, and a mixed bag of results, they have still had some impressive victories.

The law blacks, our society rugby team, had a disappointing season last year and are looking hopeful of a more successful year after a big win against the Engines, and reaching the semi-finals of the 10s tournament.

The netball girls had a tough start to the year, being put up against the most successful team in the first match. There have been a lot of new players, and so it has taken the girls a while to get used to playing together, but this has massively improved, and it has been seen in the results, as the girls have had 2 wins and a draw out of the last 3 matches.

We are still awaiting news of whether the hockey team will get up and running, but will be sure to update people on this when it has been confirmed.

The Street Law project works with children and young people in schools and community groups. The aim is to educate and raise awareness of children’s rights and the law. ‘Street Law Ambassadors’ (SLAs) are recruited from first and second stage law students, delivering Street Law sessions at five organisations: West End Women and Girls Centre, Young Women’s Outreach Project, Gateshead Youth Offending Team, St Joseph’s School, the Royal Air Force Air Training Corps (Air Cadets). The project has also established a brand identity, creating a logo and materials for dissemination at Street Law sessions.

The McKenzie Friend project, in partnership with the National Centre for Domestic Violence (NCDV), gives law students the opportunity to support victims of domestic violence who often do not have legal representation. McKenzie Friends are recruited from stage 2 law students, who work in pairs to take witness statements from victims of domestic violence. In 2016/17 the project expanded to work with Newcastle Union of Students ‘Go Volunteer’, doubling the number of students recruited for the project.

The Personal Support Unit (PSU) work with clients who cannot afford legal representation and may not qualify for legal aid, providing them with emotional and/or practical support in going through the court process. They provide trained volunteers who give free, independent assistance to people facing proceedings without legal representation in civil and family courts and tribunals. Stage 3 students are eligible to apply to work as volunteers.

Legacare provides students with the opportunity to work alongside lawyers at LegaCare, a local social enterprise project and registered charity that provides legal advice and representation to people with terminal illnesses who cannot otherwise afford it. LegaCare provides students with an excellent introduction to legal work and an opportunity to give something back to the local community.

The Excelsior Academy’s catchment area reaches across some of the most economically disadvantaged areas of Newcastle. Historically the take-up rate for higher education at the Academy has been low. The new mentoring system is run by the Law School, the Academy and local law firms, including Ward Hadaway, Bond Dickinson and Sintons. 10-15 law students are selected each year to serve as mentors to approximately thirty year 10 and 12 students at Excelsior Academy.